



Sasana Kijang

Towards Excellence in
Central Banking





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Message from the Governor



Tan Sri Dr. Zeti Akhtar Aziz

Governor
Bank Negara Malaysia

This all began with a vision; a vision to have a centre for the development of thought leadership and for regional and international collaboration in central banking and financial sector development. This is where we envisage a meeting of the minds to harness the wealth of expertise in the field and develop strategic solutions for the betterment of the economy and the financial system and to deal with the new challenges in central banking. This is in fact what Sasana means in Sanskrit – a convening point for the wise and learned. When combined with Kijang, a word that is strongly associated with the Bank, Sasana Kijang represents a powerful meaning that is consistent with our identity.

The architectural concept of Sasana Kijang is inspired by the earliest form of currency, the Cowrie Shell, which denotes a harmony of simplicity and class; the basis of the unique design of Sasana Kijang.

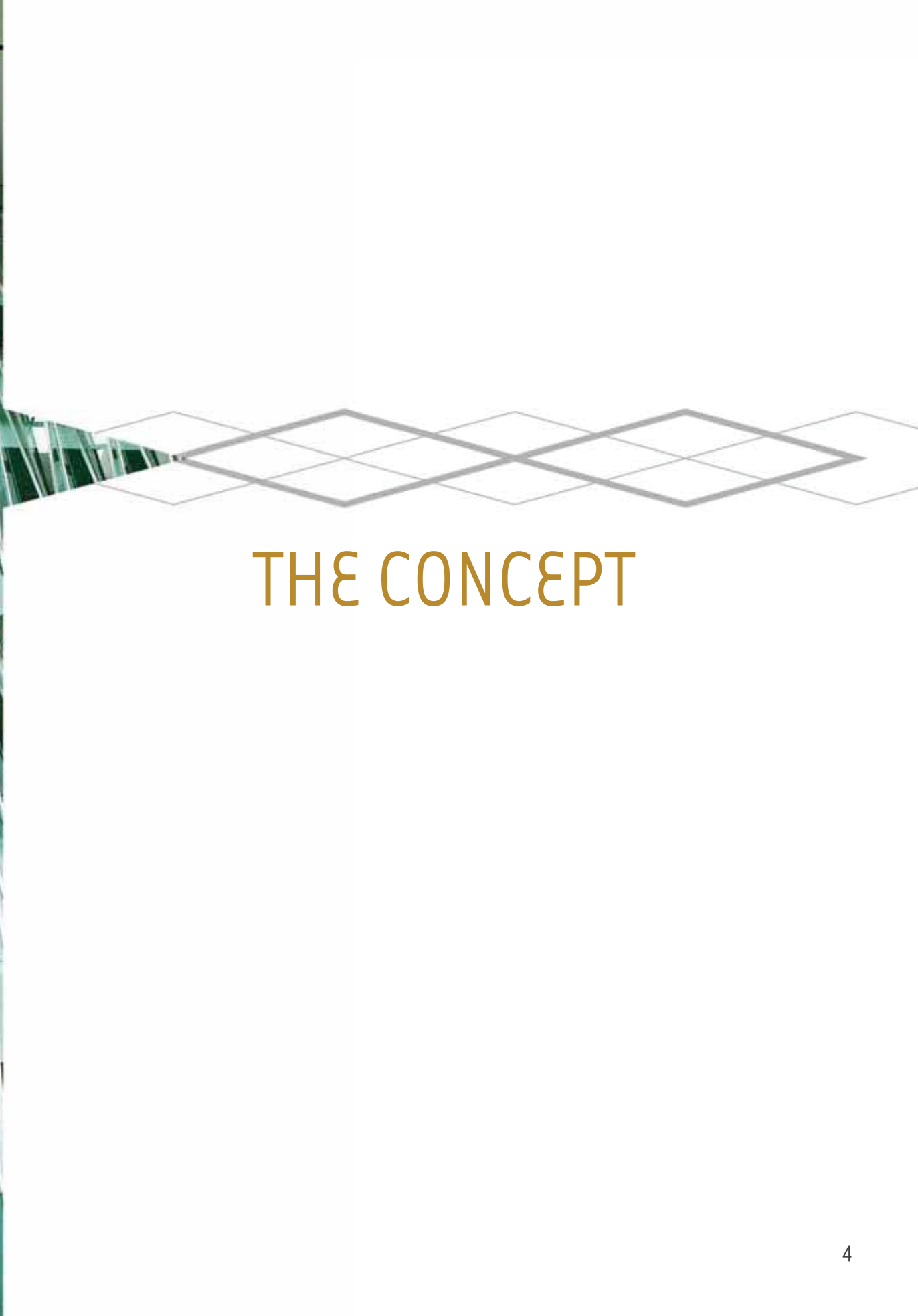
Sasana Kijang will serve as a platform that will allow for greater engagement through learning and deliberations, to pilot ahead strategic initiatives for dealing with challenges confronting the financial and central banking communities as we venture into the new frontiers of central banking.

It is with this aspiration that Sasana Kijang houses the SEACEN Centre, a regional learning and research Centre for Central Banks in Asia and the IFSB, an international organisation for the setting of prudential standards for Islamic Finance and for fostering its global development. The SEACEN Centre and the IFSB share the comprehensive knowledge centre and world class learning and meeting facilities in Sasana Kijang.

Bank Negara Malaysia also shares with the general public our numismatic and art collections in our Museum and Art Gallery in Sasana Kijang. These collections built since our earliest days over more than five decades represent the Bank's efforts to preserve the heritage of our country.

Sasana Kijang reflects the Bank's intention for the centre to be a nexus for thought leadership and regional and international collaboration in central banking.

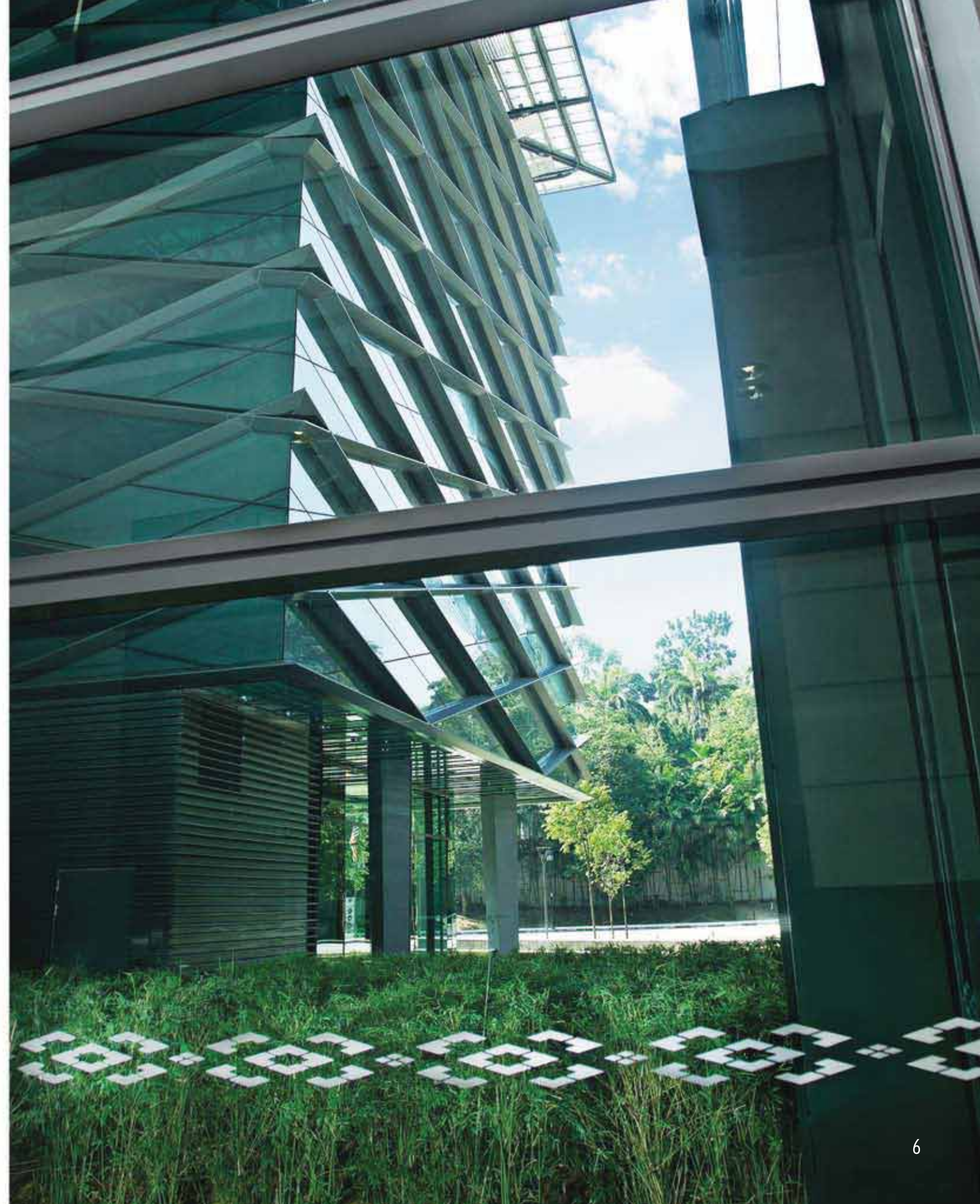




THE CONCEPT

The Vision

“To be a Leading Centre in Promoting Excellence and Regional and International Collaboration in Central Banking”





A Meeting Place



Sasana Kijang is the realisation of Bank Negara Malaysia's aspiration to establish a centre of excellence in knowledge and learning in central banking. Sasana Kijang embodies the Bank's continuous drive for talent development through effective learning initiatives as well as creating a conducive environment to promote best practices in central banking.

It is a nexus for thought leadership and collaboration in central banking. In the learning centre, structured programmes and high level seminars provide opportunities for the exchange of views and experiences and for capacity building in central banking to be better positioned in meeting future challenges.

Sasana Kijang

The word 'Sasana' is derived from Sanskrit and describes a site, centre, building or arena where communities gather for meetings. These meetings are respected informal events where leaders share knowledge to achieve common objectives and to enrich the lives of their communities. The Kijang crest which appears in Bank Negara Malaysia's logo is a strong symbol of the Bank's history and accomplishments.



In its mission to be a centre of excellence in knowledge and learning in central banking, Sasana Kijang's facilities are divided into three conceptual components:

Pustaka (knowledge resource), **Pusaka** (heritage) and **Seni** (art)

The *Pustaka*, or knowledge resource component is the Knowledge Management Centre (KMC) that comprises three levels of open library and the state-of-the-art learning and training facilities.

The *Pusaka*, or the heritage component is Bank Negara Malaysia's Numismatics and Economics Museum that is in the Sasana Kijang. The artefacts and exhibits provide an insight into the history, significance and roles of money through the ages. The use of interactive games and learning modules enables visitors to gain knowledge in an engaging manner.

The *Seni*, or the art component is the Art Gallery that displays the art collections of the Bank that include the works of renowned Malaysian artists. It also includes a section of art works from ASEAN economies.



Mini Forum facilities.



An Environment that Encourages Learning

The state-of-the-art facilities that are offered at Sasana Kijang are designed to create an environment conducive to contemporary adult learning.

The spacious layout, clear spaces and vast areas that are illuminated with natural light, coupled with modern interior décor and contemporary furniture provide both physical comfort as well as a serenity that calms the mind. Most rooms offer a window view that looks out onto a scene of greenery. This clear access to the spaciousness of the outdoor environment lends to the mood of the space inside the KMC.

The physical attributes, which include the design, systems and technology employed at the KMC aim to create the right setting for a contemporary environment of learning. The open KMC Theatrette is an example of this concept of a borderless learning environment. The self-help system allows visitors complete freedom of access to all the information. And the individual reading seats juxtaposed with discussion areas within KMC are signs that the entire facility caters to self-learning as well as the sharing of ideas and knowledge.

The KMC offers conducive discussion areas.





Lounge areas outside the training rooms provide an opportunity for discussion, reflection and refreshment between sessions.

A Centre for Regional and International Collaboration

Sasana Kijang provides a platform to facilitate the collaboration and co-operation of central banks in the region and the global financial system in the areas of mutual interest. In this highly dynamic and ever changing environment, new capabilities are needed. To deal with the new challenges confronting central banks and to achieve new insights and solutions, strengthened co-operation amongst emerging economies has become increasingly important.

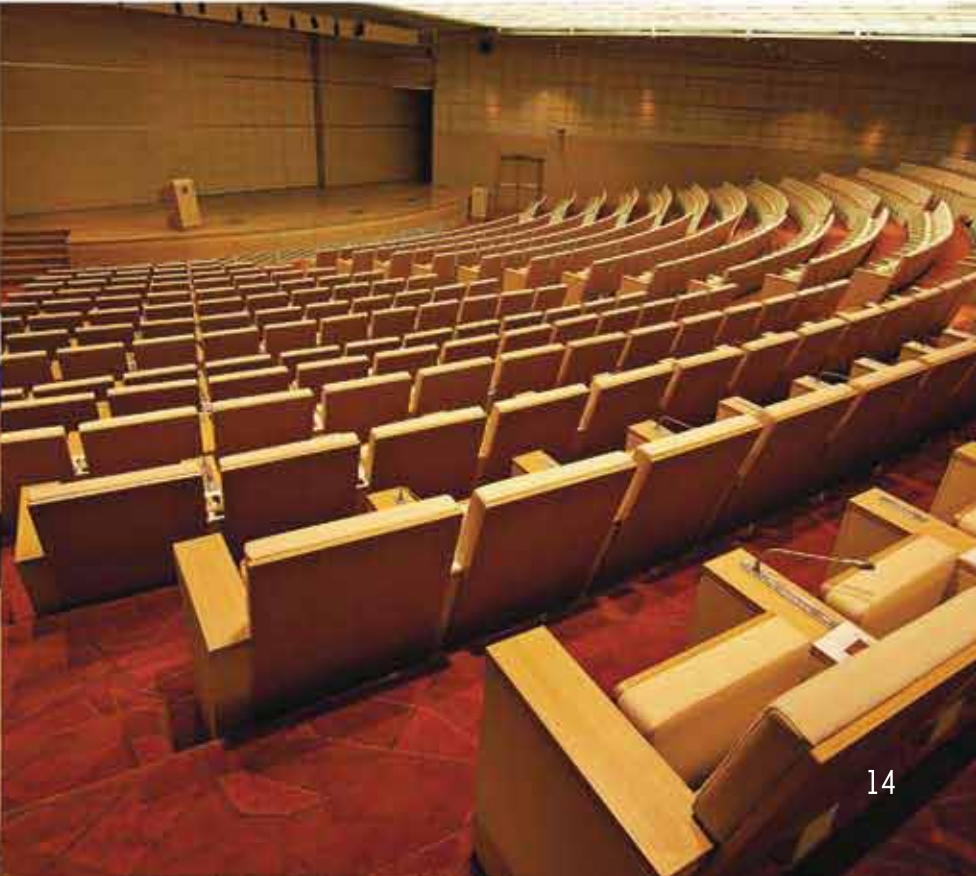


Sasana Cafe serves a variety of Asian and Western cuisines.

The Executive Meeting Room caters for high level meetings.

Full conference facilities.

State-of-the-art Auditorium.



Architectural Concept

Sasana Kijang’s architectural concept is inspired by the shape of the Cowrie shell, a popular form of money in the Malay Peninsula during the third century. The unique facade design of the building is derived from the geometric patterns of traditional Malaysian *songket* motifs. *Songket*, a hand woven fabric is renowned for its intricate designs of gold and silver threads which create a strong bond, giving the fabric its strength and elegance.

Like the *songket*, the central banking community is interlinked through their similar objectives and bonded through collaboration, strategic alliances and knowledge sharing.

The extensive use of glass in the building serves to allow the free flow of natural light. The concept of transparent materials represents “transparency and openness”.





THE COMPONENTS

Think, Discover and Inspire

The Knowledge Management Centre

Sasana Kijang will provide opportunities and the environment for all its stakeholders to network, exchange views and share knowledge. The Bank's re-engineered Knowledge Management Centre (KMC) located within Sasana Kijang, will be the catalyst to drive knowledge and learning in central banking. Besides the wide range of physical and online resources, the KMC is committed in promoting the knowledge management and learning agenda amongst central banks in the region. Towards this end, the KMC is guided by its promise to participants – Think, Discover and Inspire.

The KMC Theatre is a unique and interesting space for presentations, forums and discussions.



Unobtrusive enclaves can be found for quiet introspection.

The computer training lab, also known as the "Dulang Room".



Natural light illuminates most of the KMC, providing a refreshing and conducive learning environment.





The design of the spiral staircase is inspired by the nautilus shell, connecting the three floors of Bank Negara Malaysia's Museum and Art Gallery.

The Heritage

The Bank Negara Malaysia Museum and Art Gallery

Bank Negara Malaysia's Museum and Art Gallery provides an engaging and dynamic experience, increasing the understanding of Malaysia's rich numismatic and art heritage as well as its economic and financial developments. Through its learning and research programmes, collections and exhibitions that includes more than 3,000 paintings and art works, Bank Negara Malaysia's Museum and Art Gallery promises a unique experience.

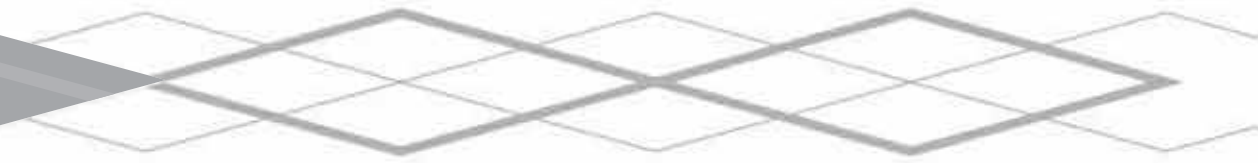
The Bank's collection includes more than 3,000 paintings.



A publication featuring the Bank's art collection.



THE COLLABORATIONS





The Centre initiates and facilitates co-operation in research and training.

Bank Negara Malaysia's aspiration to establish a centre of excellence in knowledge and learning in central banking and financial services is also shared with the South East Asian Central Banks (SEACEN) and the Islamic Financial Services Board (IFSB).

SEACEN

The South East Asian Central Banks (SEACEN) Research and Training Centre was first established as a legal entity in 1982.

The Centre reviews and analyses financial, monetary, banking and economic developments in its constituent member countries in the region. It initiates and facilitates co-operation in research and training relating to the policy and operational aspects of central banking.

Since 2001, training has been the principal activity while research has an important supporting role. To ensure that its training programmes are relevant to the learning needs and interest of members, the annual programme of activities is drawn up in close consultation with the member central banks, monetary authorities and our collaborators.

The SEACEN annual programme of learning consists of 28 learning programmes in the form of seminars, courses and workshops, focusing on areas of core central banking functions, namely macroeconomic management and monetary policy; bank supervision and financial stability; payment and settlement systems; leadership and central bank governance; and other topical areas such as human capital management and central bank operations.

The Centre also organises high-level meetings which provide forums for the exchange of views and the sharing of experiences on current issues of common interest and concern. High-level meetings are also held to decide on policies of strategic importance to The SEACEN Centre as well as the SEACEN programme of activities.

IFSB

The Islamic Financial Services Board (IFSB) was officially inaugurated on 3rd November 2002 and started operations on 10th March 2003. The IFSB serves as an international prudential standard-setting body for Islamic finance to ensure the soundness and stability of the Islamic financial services industry, covering banking, capital market and insurance. In advancing this mission, the IFSB promotes the development of the Islamic financial services industry through introducing international prudential standards consistent with *Shariah* principles, and recommend them for adoption.

The work of the IFSB complements that of the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision, International Organisation of Securities Commissions and the International Association of Insurance Supervisors for conventional finance.

The IFSB membership comprises regulatory and supervisory authorities, international inter-governmental organisations, including the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the Bank for International Settlements, the Islamic Development Bank and the Asian Development Bank. It also includes observer members from market players, professional firms and industry associations from various jurisdictions and regions.

Malaysia, the host country of the IFSB, has enacted a law known as the Islamic Financial Services Board Act 2002, which gives the IFSB the immunities and privileges that are usually granted to international organisations and diplomatic missions. The IFSB Secretariat headed by a Secretary-General is based in Sasana Kijang, Kuala Lumpur.



The IFSB serves as an international prudential standard-setting body for Islamic finance.



THE VENUE

The Building

Sasana Kijang is an iconic building that comprises three sections. The West Wing houses the Bank Negara Malaysia Museum and Art Gallery, the East Wing houses the Knowledge Management Centre while the lower levels of the central section is occupied by conference hall, the main auditorium and the banquet hall. The upper floors on the central section provide the meeting and conference rooms as well as the offices of the SEACEN Centre and the Islamic Financial Services Board (IFSB).

The building features a range of green technologies that highlights Bank Negara Malaysia’s commitment to the environment. The extensive use of natural light, the ‘bottom-up’ air conditioning system, the ICT availability that promotes a paperless environment are just some of the initiatives that serve to reduce the carbon footprint of the building.

With high-tech security and centralised building management systems in place, the building operates efficiently to ensure optimum utilisation of resources.



The Facilities

Sasana Kijang provides state-of-the-art facilities to create a pleasant and conducive environment for learning, research and for engaging in discourse.

This environment has been benchmarked against the best in the industry.

From comprehensive audio visual equipment to real-time translation services, the facilities are designed to enhance the learning and engagement experience.



Clockwise from left: Large windows contribute to the sense of spaciousness within Sasana Kijang, forum room, view from Sasana Cafe, meeting room, Sasana Cafe, one of the lounge area, Mini Theatre.



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